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Obituary Notices.—In order to receive attention, communications must be accompanied by the true name and address of the writer. The obituary notices are published for the purpose of giving notice to the friends and relatives of the deceased. The obituary notices are published for the purpose of giving notice to the friends and relatives of the deceased.

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THE CHARLESTON EXCURSION.

The excursion to Charleston last week was a great success, and the railroads and hotels reaped a rich harvest. Having invited their "country cousins" to spend a visit, the citizens of that grand old place left nothing undone that would in any way contribute to their amusement.

Anderson, both town and country, was well represented, the train between this place and Belton being crowded. Arriving at Belton, the train coming down in torrents, we were informed that one hour and a half was at our disposal to get breakfast and see the sights of Belton, and but for the rain we would have been glad to have availed ourselves of the opportunity.

Belton, from appearance, is a live town, and bids fair when the Atlantic and French Broad Railroad is completed to become the centre of considerable trade. Surrounded, as it is, with good farming lands, an industrious and progressive population, with competition in freights and energetic business men, before a great while Belton will be reaching out after trade now controlled by older places. All the towns along the G. & O. R. seem to be growing—new houses going up, fences in good repair, and very few idle people to be seen. Small grain crops are looking a, and farming operations are generally in a forward condition.

At every depot additions were made to our party, and when we left Newberry not a seat was vacant, and standing room was scarce. At Alston, the junction of the Spartanburg & Union Railroad, we were joined by excursionists along that line, and from that place to Columbia the cars were crowded uncomfortably.

On arriving at Columbia the South Carolina Railroad promptly put two trains at our disposal, and from that place to Charleston the ride was delightful. We were able to see but little of the country between these two places, but from what we did see we were impressed with the idea that this section of our State has not made the progress in farming that the up-country has. While the lands seem to be productive and well cultivated, still there is no evidence of prosperity. Very few neat farm-houses are to be seen, and the country has a deserted appearance.

At 10 p. m. we reached the city, and soon the whole party were on the look-out for accommodations. Some were met by friends and quietly marched away to hospitable homes, but the great majority made a rush for the different hotels, which were already crowded by excursionists from different parts of the State, as the same cheap rates were given over every railroad within our borders, commencing on the same day. All were finally taken in and cared for, some of the boys declaring next morning that they had slept among the stars—in the fifth or sixth story, three in a bed. We heard considerable grumbling the day after our arrival at hotel accommodations, but when made aware of the immense crowd in the city, the grumblers came to the conclusion that some allowance should be made.

Early Wednesday morning the pleasure-seekers sallied out to visit the various places of interest in the city. All the public buildings, cemeteries, gardens, museums, &c., were kindly thrown open to visitors free of charge, while the citizens of Charleston, white and colored, vied with each other in politeness, often giving a considerable distance in order to better enable their country friends to find the objects of their search.

The great attraction, however, to the up-country people was the water, and very few excursion boats left the city without being crowded. The shipping at the wharves from all parts of the world was especially interesting to those not accustomed to it. The loading and unloading is all done by machinery, and with greater dispatch than one would imagine. Cotton bales are compressed into about half the usual size, thus enabling the vessels to carry several thousand bales. We saw a large steamer from Florida come in loaded with fruit and vegetables for New York—oranges, potatoes, squashes, beans, water-melons, and enough cucumbers, it seemed to us, to supply the United States. We never before saw so many vegetables at one time, and had no idea of the magnitude of the business. The New York steamer immediately took charge of the cargo, and left forthwith for its destination.

Bullwain's Island, with its magnificent beach, covered with shells of every description, which must be seen to be appreciated, was the popular place of resort with visitors. Fort Sumter was also visited by great numbers. There is no Garrison stationed in the fort, and the place seems to be fast crumbling into ruins. Drayton Hall, or Magnolia Garden, as it is called here, twenty miles up the Ashley River, with its huge magnolia trees, covered with the long moss peculiar to the low country; its miniature lakes, winding walks, rustic bridges, flower-beds, &c., make this a delightful place to spend a few hours. The ride up the river gives a very good view of the western portion of the city, but is otherwise monotonous. The most important phosphate works are located on this stream, but as the boat made no landing, we did not have the pleasure of visiting them. The boats are supplied with everything good to eat and drink, (the Anderson delegation confined themselves strictly to lemonade,) at reasonable prices.

After spending the forenoon on the water, and eating a hearty dinner, one is prepared to visit the places of interest in the city. The Custom House, Charleston Museum, Magnolia Cemetery, and other places are visited in succession, each with its peculiar interest. We advise all our friends visiting the city by all means to visit the Museum, as it contains more curiosities than any one place in the city. Birds, snakes, grackles, lizards, turtles, shells, minerals of all kinds, and thousands of other things, can be seen.

Business in Charleston seemed to be rather dull. East Bay, where the principal wholesale grocery houses are situated, appeared to be doing a lively business. We dropped in at E. W. Waggoner & Co.'s and found them as busy as bees. This firm will soon move into their large new building, where they will have room to show their immense stock by fair dealing, indomitable energy and pluck, they have reached an enviable position in the commercial world. The secret of their success is very simple—they are not afraid of work.

Charleston is not much of a place to buy things at retail. We were amused at one of our lady friends who had made out a considerable list of articles she intended to purchase, as she thought they could be bought very cheap. Meeting her on King Street we inquired if she had made her purchases, when she indignantly replied that she did not intend to buy a single article—that she had priced the articles wanted, and they could be bought in Anderson for less money.

On Friday night we left the city, accompanied by a goodly number of excursionists. There is a tropical appearance about Charleston not to be found in most cities, which renders it very attractive to strangers. The excursionists, as a general thing, were pleased with their trip.

We arrived at home on Saturday night, satisfied that Anderson, with its pure mountain air, good water and quiet homes, was a better place to live in than Charleston.

During the last two weeks terrible and destructive tornadoes have passed over several portions of the South and West, Northwest, killing a large number of persons and doing immense damage to property. On the 18th inst. a terrible tornado struck Marshfield, county seat of Webster county, Missouri, a beautiful little city, containing about two hundred dwelling-houses, besides the business houses around the public square, with a population of 800. The death list is terrible, more than one hundred recovered besides the missing, and more than one hundred persons wounded, being more than one-fourth of the entire population. Not more than twenty of the dwelling-houses were left standing, and only three of the business houses. The damage to property is estimated at \$500,000. On the same night the storm destroyed Al Paso, Arkansas, and continued as far as Chicago, doing great damage to property and destroying lives at various places in its track. On the night of the 25th inst. a heavy storm passed over Macon, Mississippi, blowing away twenty-two houses, including the Mobile and Ohio Railroad machine shop, round house, depot, telegraphic office and master mechanic's office. Seventeen persons were killed and twenty-two wounded. The loss of property is estimated at not less than \$100,000.